



Ahmed J. Davis

Principal
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Overview

Ahmed Davis, an intellectual property trial lawyer with 20 years' experience, handles complex patent litigation and provides practical, forthright counsel to clients in highly technical industries, such as chemistry, biotechnology, medical devices, and mechanical and electrical engineering.

Ahmed is the firm's go-to attorney for litigation matters in the "rocket docket" that is the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, where he has extensive experience and exceptional knowledge of that court system—and where he has earned a respected reputation as a skillful advocate.

He excels at explaining complex technologies to jurors. He has been lead trial counsel in numerous other U.S. District Courts, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. He also has significant experience before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, arguing more IP cases before the court than any other African American private practitioner.

While Ahmed is experienced at bench trials, his forte is jury trials—and his value in the courtroom extends beyond his eloquence and commanding presence as a litigator. Clients praise him for being a great team leader who leverages each trial team member's individual skills to build the strongest case possible.

Ahmed's real-world experiences and awareness provide invaluable insight into the psyche of increasingly diverse juries. He is known for his effective, clear, and understandable communication in front of diverse, layperson juries, as well as with court staff and judges. While his chemistry background enables him to "speak the language" of science and technology, Ahmed never lets technology override the human element in a case.

His talents have been repeatedly recognized by the legal industry and his peers. He has been named an "IP Star" multiple times by *Managing Intellectual Property* and *Savoy* magazine named him a "Most Influential Black Attorney of 2015." He was also featured as a "Minority Power Broker" by *Law360*, and he was named one of *Profiles in Diversity Journal's* "Black Leaders Worth Watching" for 2020.

Speaking Truth to Power

As the national chair of the firm's Diversity & Inclusion initiative and the firm's first Black full-equity principal, Ahmed is a vocal and influential advocate behind Fish's longstanding commitment to building a more diverse workforce through recruiting and developing the careers of attorneys.

He is also a prolific speaker and lecturer on issues relevant to diversity and the patent bar. He is a long-time instructor for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. Ahmed also has been a faculty member, guest lecturer and presenter at Howard University Law

School, Catholic University Columbus School of Law, Temple Law School, Fordham Law School, and numerous seminars and conferences.

Experience

Asghari-Kamrani v. United Services Automobile Association (E.D. Va.) — Co-lead trial counsel for defendant USAA in case related to centralized authentication computer systems.

Commonwealth Scientific Industrial & Research Organisation et al. v. BASF Plant Science LP and Cargill, Incorporated (E.D. Va.) — Lead trial counsel for defendant Cargill Incorporated in case relating to transgenic canola containing increased omega-3 fatty acids.

Kaufman v. Microsoft Corp. (S.D.N.Y.) — Lead trial counsel for defendant Microsoft in case relating to relational database management systems.

In re Certain InkJet Ink Cartridges (U.S.I.T.C.) — Lead trial counsel for complainants Hewlett-Packard Co. and Hewlett-Packard Development Co. in investigation related to thermal inkjet print cartridges.

In re Certain UV Curable Coatings for Optical Fibers (U.S.I.T.C.) — Co-lead trial counsel for respondent Momentive UV Coatings in investigation related to UV-cured optical fiber coatings.

Paice LLC v. Hyundai Motor Corp. et al. (D. Md.) — Lead trial counsel for plaintiff Paice LLC in case related to control systems and methods for hybrid-electric vehicles.

Plastipak Packaging, Inc. v. Niagara Bottling, LLC (E.D. Va.) — Counsel for plaintiff Plastipak in 11-patent case related to lightweighting plastic water bottles.

Previvo Genetics, Inc. v. Pagidas (D.R.I.) — Lead counsel for declaratory judgment plaintiff Previvo in inventorship dispute related to systems and techniques for uterine lavage.

Signal IP, Inc. v. American Honda Motor Co., et al. (C.D. Cal.) — Lead counsel for defendant Honda in case relating to automotive radar and object range-sensing technology.

Testimonials

“Making important contributions to Fish’s success in life sciences litigations—as well as in medical devices and electrical cases—is Ahmed Davis... He is integral to broader firm life, too, being a member of the management committee and diversity leader.” —*2019 IAM Patent 1000*

Recognitions & awards

Best Lawyers in America

Best Lawyers 2019-2026

IAM Patent 1000

IAM 2021-2025

Super Lawyers

Super Lawyers 2020, 2023-2025

IP Star

Managing IP 2016-2025

Life Sciences Star

LMG Life Sciences 2023-2024

Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

District of Columbia Courts 2022

Black Leaders Worth Watching

Profiles in Diversity Journal (PDJ) 2020

Professional associations

Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America

Board of Visitors, National Judicial College

Pro bono activities

Working pro bono alongside the ACLU, Fish represented a class of 12 peaceful protestors who were injured by police officers during the protests following the murder of George Floyd. The plaintiffs alleged that the Minneapolis Police Department used unnecessary and excessive force to suppress their First Amendment rights to assemble peacefully and speak out against injustice. The matter resulted in a settlement that included a \$600,000 payment to the plaintiffs and numerous reforms for the MPD. These reforms prohibit the city from arresting, threatening to arrest, or using physical force against lawful protestors, limit the use of chemical agents to disperse protestors, and mandate the use of body cameras by police officers responding to protests.

Insights

Webinar | March 12, 2025

Settlement and Negotiations - The Limitations of Rule 408 and How to Protect Yourself

Webinar | September 24, 2024

Attorney Client Privilege: Pre-Suit Communications, Deposition Preparation & Best Practices

Webinar | January 23, 2024

Addressing Bias in the Legal Industry

Article | February 23, 2023

The Patent Oath and Its Legacy for Black Inventorship

Article | April 26, 2021

Celebrating Black Inventors on World IP Day

Q&A | October 2, 2020

Q&A with Ahmed Davis for *Corporate Counsel Business Journal*

Q&A | April 4, 2016

Changing IP Laws, Changing Litigation Strategies: Understanding evolving IP trends is necessary for effective advocacy

Article | October 9, 2015

How Globalization has Shifted the Paradigm of Diversity Inclusion in Intellectual Property Law

Webinar | May 20, 2015

Alice and Octane Fitness Patent Reform in the Federal Judiciary

Q&A | February 11, 2015

Minority Powerbrokers Q&A with Fish's Ahmed Davis

Article | December 20, 2013

Timing of PTO Disclosures - A Trap for the Unwary

News

News | October 1, 2025

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by Managing IP; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | August 20, 2025

95 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2026 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

News | May 30, 2025

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2025 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | January 24, 2025

Fish & Richardson Attorneys Selected for Leadership Council on Legal Diversity's Fellow and Pathfinder Programs

News | October 4, 2024

Fish & Richardson Recognized by Leadership Council for Legal Diversity as 2024 Top Performer and Compass Award Winner

News | October 4, 2024

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | September 23, 2024

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings From *LMG Life Sciences*; 14 Attorneys Named 2024 "Life Sciences Stars"

News | August 15, 2024

101 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2025 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

News | June 11, 2024

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2024 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | May 16, 2024

Fish & Richardson Launches 2nd Annual Undergraduate and Graduate Education Program, "School of Fish: STEM Careers in IP"

News | January 30, 2024

Fish & Richardson Attorneys Selected for Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellow and Pathfinder Programs

News | October 5, 2023

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | September 25, 2023

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings from *LMG Life Sciences*; 14 Principals Named 2023 "Life Sciences Stars"

News | August 17, 2023

101 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2024 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

News | July 31, 2023

Twenty-Eight Fish & Richardson Attorneys Recognized by D.C. Courts in the 2022 Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

News | July 27, 2023

Fish & Richardson Featured in 11 Categories of the *LMG Life Sciences Awards 2023* Shortlist

News | June 27, 2023

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2023 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | June 26, 2023

Fish & Richardson Launches Inaugural Undergraduate Education Program, "School of Fish: STEM Careers in IP"

News | February 14, 2023

Fish & Richardson Principal Karan Jhurani Named a 2023 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellow and Associates Dexter Whitley and Alex Pechette...

News | November 30, 2022

Fish & Richardson and ACLU of Minnesota Secure Settlement for Protesters Injured by Police During Peaceful Protests Following the Murder of George Floyd

News | October 31, 2022

D&I Update: Fish & Richardson Attends ChIPs Summits, Promotes Director of Diversity & Inclusion

News | October 19, 2022

Fish & Richardson Receives Mansfield Rule 5.0 Certification Plus From Diversity Lab

News | September 8, 2022

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2022 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | August 22, 2022

96 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2023 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

News | June 16, 2022

26 Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named to the 2021 Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

News | June 2, 2022

Fish & Richardson Named a Top ITC and Life Sciences Firm by *Managing IP*, Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | December 14, 2021

Fish & Richardson Pro Bono Team Wins Jury Verdict for Female Employee in Sex Discrimination Lawsuit

News | October 27, 2021

Fish & Richardson Named to *Bloomberg Law's* Inaugural Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Framework

News | September 13, 2021

Fish & Richardson Receives Mansfield Rule 4.0 Certification Plus From Diversity Lab

News | August 19, 2021

Fish Attorneys Recognized in 2022 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

News | July 7, 2021

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2021 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000*: The World's Leading Patent Professionals

News | April 7, 2021

Thirty Fish Attorneys Named to 2020 Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

News | February 19, 2021

Fish & Richardson Principal Nancy Ly Named a 2021 LCLD Fellow and Associates Rae Crisler and Joel Henry Selected for LCLD's Pathfinder Program

News | December 15, 2020

Ahmed Davis Named a 2020 "Black Leader Worth Watching" by *Profiles in Diversity Journal*

News | December 11, 2020

Fish's 2021 1L Diversity Fellowship Program Application Now Live

News | September 15, 2020

Fish & Richardson Earns Mansfield 3.0 Certified Designation from Diversity Lab

News | August 12, 2020

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Gold" Ranking from *IAM Patent 1000* for National Litigation Practice; National Rankings in the Plaintiff Firm and Prosecution...

News | August 4, 2020

32 Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named 2020 "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | June 20, 2019

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Gold" Ranking from *IAM Patent 1000* for National Patent Litigation Practice

News | May 22, 2019

Fish & Richardson Announces 32 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | October 4, 2018

Fish & Richardson Wins Federal Circuit Affirmance for USAA

News | August 15, 2018

47 Fish Attorneys Named to The Best Lawyers in America 2019 List

News | June 21, 2018

Fish & Richardson Named a "Best Law Firm for Minority Attorneys" by *Law360*

News | May 21, 2018

Fish & Richardson Announces 39 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | August 23, 2017

Fish & Richardson Named One of 20 "Best Law Firms for Minority Attorneys" by *Law360*

News | June 23, 2017

Fish & Richardson Announces 36 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

Media Coverage | May 30, 2017

3 Takeaways From The High Court's Patent Exhaustion Ruling

Law360

News | March 20, 2017

Fish & Richardson Announces 2017 1L Diversity Fellows

Media Coverage | March 6, 2017

Patent Review in US District Courts: A 2016 Review

Law360

News | November 7, 2016

Fish & Richardson Recognized as a 2016 "Top Performer" by the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity

News | October 28, 2016

Fish & Richardson Announces Support of ABA Resolution 113 "Promoting Diversity in the Legal Profession"

News | July 14, 2016

Fish & Richardson Wins Dismissal of Patent Infringement Case Against USAA Over Patent for Verifying Online Transactions

News | June 8, 2016

Fish & Richardson Named to *NLJ*'s "2016 Intellectual Property Hot List" for Fifth Straight Year

News | June 2, 2016

Fish & Richardson Announces 36 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by Managing Intellectual Property Magazine

News | March 23, 2016

Fish & Richardson Awarded "Milestone Case of the Year" at *Managing Intellectual Property*'s North America Awards 2016

News | March 8, 2016

Fish & Richardson Principal Ahmed J. Davis Receives 2016 "Diversity Leader" Award

News | June 15, 2015

Fish & Richardson Ranks in Top 20 Percent of Law Firms for Diversity

News | May 26, 2015

Fish Named a "Top Firm" for Minority Attorneys by *Law360*

News | March 10, 2015

Fish & Richardson Principal Ahmed J. Davis Named a "Most Influential Black Lawyer" for 2015 by Savoy Magazine

News | February 3, 2015

Fish & Richardson Principal Ahmed J. Davis Receives 2015 "Diversity Leader" Award

News | November 20, 2014

Fish & Richardson Receives "Best Place to Work" Designation from the Human Rights Campaign

News | June 19, 2014

Fish Ranks in Top 15 Percent of Law Firms for Diversity

News | December 12, 2013

Fish & Richardson Receives "Best Place to Work" Designation from the Human Rights Campaign

News | August 28, 2013

Fifty Years Ago...

News | February 23, 2011

Ahmed Davis Named a Top Minority Business Leaders of 2011 by the *Washington Business Journal*

News | October 12, 2010

Fish's Davis Named an Honoree of the Root 100, The Root.com's Annual List of a Generation of African-American Leaders

News | June 7, 2010

Fish Principal Ahmed J. Davis Named One of "Nation's Best Advocates"

Events

February 23, 2023

National Bar Association Commercial Law Section's Corporate Counsel Conference

June 23, 2021

Federal Circuit Bar Association's 2021 Bench & Bar® Conference

November 19, 2020

ACC National Capital Region Program

September 21, 2020

2020 IPO Annual Meeting

September 17, 2020

ABA Webinar | Constitution Day: Protests and Freedom of Speech

October 18, 2018

Practicing Law Institute Patent Litigation 2018: Advanced Techniques and Best Practices

October 13, 2017

PLI Patent Litigation 2017: Advanced Techniques & Best Practices

January 18, 2017

Boston Seminar Series | Life Sciences Patents 2016 Year in Review

October 14, 2016

PLI Patent Litigation 2016

May 28, 2015

Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) 1L Scholars Summit

Additional insights

Publications

- "How Globalization has Shifted the Paradigm of Diversity Inclusion in Intellectual Property Law," *Landslide Magazine* (October 2015)

Speaking engagements

- "Constitution Day: Protests and Freedom of Speech," *American Bar Association Virtual Meeting* (September 2020)
- "Effective Communication between In-House and Outside Counsel – Teaming for Success," *IPO Annual Meeting* (September 2020)
- "Patent Litigation 2018: Advanced Techniques & Best Practices," *Practising Law Institute*, Chicago, Illinois (October 2018)
- "Diversity in Practice," *1L LCLD Scholars Summit*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (May 2018)
- "Live Demonstrations: Delivering an Effective Opening Statement in Patent Cases," *PLI's Patent Litigation 2017: Advanced Techniques and Best Practices*, Chicago, Illinois (October 2017)
- "Leveraging IP," *National Bar Association Corporate Counsel Conference*, Naples, Florida (February 2015)
- "Reasonable Royalties and Damages" *ABA Litigation Roundtable Webinar*, Washington, D.C. (February 2015)
- *The 15th Annual Sedona Conference on Patent Litigation*, New Orleans, Louisiana (November 2014)
- "Hot Topics In Patent Law," *Association of Corporate Patent Counsel Summer Meeting*, Chicago, Illinois (June 2014)

Media mentions

- "[Settlement between Minneapolis, protesters hurt during Floyd demonstrations approved by court](#)," *KSTP* (November 30, 2022)
 - "[Black IP Attys Urge Law Students To Lift Each Other Up](#)," *Law360* (February 16, 2022)
 - "[Breaking IP Barriers: Q&A With Fish's Ahmed Davis](#)," *Law360* (July 23, 2021)
 - "[Confirmed: Cunningham Will Be Federal Circuit's First Black Judge](#)," *Law.com* (July 19, 2021)
 - "[Welcome To The Next Era Of The Federal Circuit](#)," *Law360* (April 23, 2021)
 - "[Patent Attorneys' Fee Hurdle Lower, Federal Circuit Rulings Show](#)," *Bloomberg Law* (September 9, 2020)
 - "[Black Clerks 'Like Unicorns' at Court Without Judges Like Them](#)," *Bloomberg Law* (July 7, 2020)
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Services

Litigation

Patent Litigation

Industries

Energy & Chemicals
Manufacturing
Medical Devices
Electrical & Computer Technology
Life Sciences
Pharmaceuticals

Admissions

Virginia
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
District of Columbia
U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin
U.S. Court for Federal Claims

Clerkships

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, The Honorable Leonie M. Brinkema (1999-2000)
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, The Honorable Paul R. Michel (2001-2002)

Education

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center (1999)
M.S., Chemistry, Emory University (1996)
B.S. *cum laude*, Chemistry, Morehouse College (1994)